

Message Text

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62

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 AID-05 OMB-01 /076 W
----- 118877

R 202133Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9994

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY ASUNCION

AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUENOS AIRES 1193

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, AR, US

SUBJECT: VIGNES' PRESS STATEMENT OF FEB 19

REF BA 1150

1. IN A FEB 19 STATEMENT TO NEWSMEN, FONMIN VIGNES SAID THAT IF AFTER THE FIRST BALLOT FOR THE OAS SECRETARY GENERALSHIP NO CANDIDATE IS ELECTED, ARGENTINA WOULD THEN SUPPORT AN ARGENTINE CANDIDATE. ACCOMPANYING HIS STATEMENT, LA NKCION QUOTES RELIABLE FOREIGN MINISTRY SOURCES AS SAYING THAT PANAMA, COSTA RICA,

COLOMBIA AND VENEZUELA ARE ALREADY SUPPORTING THE ORFILA CANDIDACY. MINISTRY SOURCES TOLD EMBOFF FEB 19 THAT REAL PURPOSE OF VIGNES' STATEMENT IS TO GET PARAGUAYANS TO DROP SAPENA PASTOR CANDIDACY SO THAT ORFILA CAN BE CANDATE ON FIRST ROUND.

2. VIGNES' STATEMENT INDICATED FURTHER THAT FORMER UNDERSECRETARY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND NOW ARGENTINE AMBASSADOR TO DENMARK,
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JULIO CARASANAS, WILL BE REPLACING THE PRESENT OAS AMBASSADOR,

QUIJANO, WHEN THE LATTER MOVES TO THE UN ON A LEAVE OF ABSENCE. CURIOUSLY, STATEMENT ADDS THAT PRESENT UNDERSECRETARY DESMARAS, WHO AT FIRST HAD BEEN NAMED AS OAS AMBASSADOR AND LATER AS AMBASSADOR TO AUSTRALIA (SEE REFTEL, HAD "RESIGNED IN DECEMBER". EMBASSY BELIEVES THIS STATEMENT MAY BE REFLECTION BOTH OF VIGNES' DISSATISFACTION WITH DESMARAS AND LATTER'S POSSIBLE UNWILLINGNESS TO ACCEPT ASSIGNMENT TO CANBERRA.

3. ON AN ECONOMIC TOPIC, VIGNES INDICATED THAT VENEZUELA MAY SOON BE TRANSFERRING "SIGNIFICANT DEPOSITS" HELD IN US-OWNED BANKS IN NEW YORK CITY TO ARGENTINE BANCO DE LA NACION IN NEW YORK.
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Message Attributes

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